



Town of Ogunquit
PO Box 875
Ogunquit, Maine 03907

PRESRT STD
U.S. POSTAGE
PAID
OGUNQUIT,
ME 03907
PERMIT No. 6

Important Town Meeting & Election Information



Special Town Meeting
November 7, 2023
Information Packet

Dear Ogunquit Voter:

The Special Town Meeting is on Tuesday, November 7, 2023, from 8:00 a.m. until 8:00 p.m. We hope you will take the time to vote. This informational packet is designed to help you make informed decisions on each budget question. It provides an overview of each Article as it will appear on the ballot, briefly explaining each department's budget.

Voting

To make the voting process as convenient as possible, we encourage all eligible voters to consider voting by absentee ballot. This method is safe, easy, and secure, allowing you to cast your vote without needing to visit the Town Offices in person. You can vote before election day, knowing your vote has been received and will be counted. Mail your ballot to the Town Office or drop it off at the secure lockbox installed at the Town Office. This lock box is located on the ramp side of the Town Office and is accessible anytime, ensuring a contact-free experience.

To vote absentee, you need to request an Absentee Ballot. There are three ways to request an Absentee Ballot:

- (1) Go to the Maine Secretary of State's website: www.maine.gov/sos/cec/elec/voter-info/absent.html
- (2) Visit the Town website: www.ogunquit.gov (print form and return it to the Town Clerk)
- (3) Call the Town Clerk's office: 646-9546

We want all eligible voters to participate in the Special Town Meeting. If you prefer not to vote by Absentee Ballot, in-person voting will be available at the Dunaway Center on November 7. Vote now, check it off your "to-do list," and enjoy election day (November 7) knowing you've already voted! If you have questions about Absentee Voting, please call the Town Clerk's Office at 646-9546.

Stay informed about Ogunquit's latest news and announcements by signing up for e-notifications on the Town website under "Contact."

We hope this information is helpful and encourages you to participate in shaping your community's future by voting.

We appreciate your interest and engagement in the community's affairs. As you prepare to vote, here are some additional ways to stay informed and involved in Ogunquit's civic life:

Public Meetings

Attend public meetings such as Select Board, Planning Board, and Budget Review Committee sessions. These gatherings allow you to express your opinions, ask questions, and learn more about our community's issues. Meeting schedules can be found on the Town website.

Volunteer Opportunities

Consider volunteering for a town committee, board, or commission. Volunteering allows you to contribute your skills, expertise, and enthusiasm to shaping Ogunquit's future. Visit the Town website to learn more about current openings and how to apply.

Social Media

Follow the Town of Ogunquit's official social media channels, such as Facebook and Instagram, to receive timely updates, event announcements, and other important information.

We are grateful for your participation in the upcoming Special Town Meeting and commitment to Ogunquit's future. By voting and staying involved in our community, you contribute to its growth and prosperity.

If you need assistance or have questions about voting, the election process, or civic engagement opportunities, don't hesitate to get in touch with the Town Clerk's Office at 646-9546. We're here to help.

Thank you for your involvement and dedication to our community. Remember to vote on November 7, and let your voice be heard!

Ogunquit Select Board

Robert Whitelaw, Chair
Carole Aaron, Vice Chair
Michael Collins
Richard Dolliver
Scott Vogel

Budget Review Committee

Peter Griswold, Chair
Frederick Lynk, Vice Chair
Christopher Nobile, Secretary
Peter Kahn
Michele Tourangeau

<p>TOWN OF OGUNQUIT 2023 SPECIAL TOWN MEETING</p>

WHERE: Dunaway Community Center - 23 School Street – Rec. Room – Lower Level
WHEN: Tuesday, November 7, 2023 - 8:00 am until 8:00 pm

ABSENTEE BALLOTS: All voters may vote by Absentee Ballot. Please request a ballot by contacting the Town Clerk's office at 207-646-9546.

VOTER INFORMATION: The Registrar of Voters will hold office hours while the polls are open to assist people who have a change of name or address, or to register any person eligible to vote in Ogunquit. You must be registered to vote. Call or e-mail the Town Clerk: townclerk@ogunquit.gov

Article 1: To elect a Moderator to preside at said Meeting. [*Note: This question is not intended to be acted upon as part of the official secret ballot at the Special Town Meeting.*]

Article 2: To elect **one (1) Budget Review Committee Member** to fill a vacancy for an unexpired term ending at the conclusion of the 2024 Annual Town Meeting.

Candidate for Budget Review Committee:
Ferraro, Barbara A.
Nobile, Christopher P.

ZONING ORDINANCES/MUNICIPAL CODE

Article 3: Shall an ordinance entitled “**An Ordinance to Amend Chapter 174 – Solid Waste and Appendix I Ordinance of the Code of the Town of Ogunquit**” be enacted? *[Note: Copies of this amendment are on file with the Town Clerk, and on the Town of Ogunquit’s website: www.ogunquit.gov, and are available for inspection, use, and examination by the public in the Town Clerk’s Office.]*

Summary: *Re-wording to remove the requirement for a Transfer Station Pass.*

Article 4: Shall an ordinance entitled “**An Ordinance to Amend Chapter 225 – Zoning Ordinance – §2.2 Definitions of the Code of the Town of Ogunquit**” be enacted? *[Note: Copies of this amendment are on file with the Town Clerk, and on the Town of Ogunquit’s website: www.ogunquit.gov, and are available for inspection, use, and examination by the public in the Town Clerk’s Office.]*

Summary: *Re-wording of existing Short Term Rental definition to improve enforceability.*

CAPITAL IMPROVEMENT ARTICLES – UNASSIGNED FUND BALANCE

Article 5: Shall the Town vote to appropriate the sum of **\$80,000** from the **Unassigned Fund Balance** to fund the **Fire Truck/Equipment Reserve Account**? *[Note: If this article is defeated, the appropriation for funding the Fire Truck/Equipment Reserve Account will default to \$0 pursuant to Section 503.5 of the Town Charter.]*

Select Board recommends approval (5 in Favor/0 Against)

Budget Review Committee recommends approval (4 in Favor/1 Against)

Summary: *This article funds the purchase of personal thermal imaging cameras for firefighters and adds to the reserve account to fund the purchase of a command vehicle in the future.*

Article 6: Shall the Town vote to appropriate the sum of **\$23,630** from the **Unassigned Fund Balance** to fund the **Harbor Reserve Account**? *[Note: If this article is defeated, the appropriation for funding the Harbor Reserve Account will default to \$0 pursuant to Section 503.5 of the Town Charter.]*

Select Board recommends approval (5 in Favor/0 Against)

Budget Review Committee recommends approval (5 in Favor/0 Against)

Summary: *This article establishes a new Harbor Reserve account and appropriates funds to replace the docks which have become unsafe and are in dire need of replacement. The Perkins Cove Bridge reserve has been incredibly useful this year but the Harbor itself does not have a reserve to replace docks, buoys, mooring chains, etc. Establishing this reserve will allow the Harbormaster to replace the docks and better prepare in advance for emergencies in the Harbor in the same way the Police Department and Fire Department do.*

Article 7: Shall the Town vote to appropriate the sum of **\$225,000** from the **Unassigned Fund Balance** to fund the **Public Works Equipment Reserve Account**? *[Note: If this article is defeated, the appropriation for funding the Public Works Equipment Reserve Account will default to \$0 pursuant to Section 503.5 of the Town Charter.]*

Select Board recommends approval (5 in Favor/0 Against)

Budget Review Committee recommends approval (5 in Favor/0 Against)

Summary: *The Public Works Department has requested to purchase two trucks. This article funds the Public Works/Equipment Reserve with \$225,000 to allow DPW to purchase the \$267k truck for the winter maintenance of Route 1 (requested by the state). The truck will be bonded for up to \$175k for 10 years (which will be a separate ballot question) with the difference of \$92,000 coming from the reserve and the debt service paid by the State Revenue. It will also allow DPW to purchase the \$85k F350 from the reserve. This reserve will also fund \$10k towards new and replacement trash receptacles around town. The balance in the reserve is to be used for emergency repair/maintenance.*

Article 8: Shall the Town vote to appropriate the sum of **\$50,000** from the **Unassigned Fund Balance** to fund the **Police Equipment Reserve Account**? *[Note: If this article is defeated, the appropriation for funding the Police Equipment Reserve Account will default to \$0 pursuant to Section 503.5 of the Town Charter.]*

Select Board recommends approval (5 in Favor/0 Against)
Budget Review Committee recommends approval (4 in Favor/1 Against)

Summary: *This article funds the purchase of two (2) Motorola Watchguard Cruiser Video Cameras for use in our police cruisers, and the purchase of four (4) speed sign boards used for traffic calming and data collection for traffic safety.*

Article 9: Shall the Town vote to appropriate the sum of **\$25,000** from the **Unassigned Fund Balance** to fund the **Natural Disaster Reserve Account**? *[Note: If this article is defeated, the appropriation for funding the Natural Disaster Reserve Account will default to \$0 pursuant to Section 503.5 of the Town Charter.]*

Select Board recommends approval (5 in Favor/0 Against)
Budget Review Committee recommends approval (5 in Favor/0 Against)

Summary: *This request is to bring the Natural Disasters Reserve to the \$350,00 threshold. The Natural Disasters Reserve has been used for several items this year including repairs after the December 23, 2022, storm, and some of the ongoing 2018 FEMA projects. We do anticipate FEMA reimbursement at project closeout and those funds will be placed in the General Government revenue and ultimately returned to the Unassigned Fund Balance if this replenishment is approved. The intent is to keep the reserve intact in the event of a future disaster.*

Article 10: Shall the Town vote to appropriate the sum of **\$10,000** from the **Unassigned Fund Balance** to fund the **Comprehensive Plan Capital Improvement Project**? *[Note: If this article is defeated, the appropriation for funding the Comprehensive Plan Capital Improvement Project Account will default to \$0 pursuant to Section 503.5 of the Town Charter.]*

Select Board recommends approval (5 in Favor/0 Against)
Budget Review Committee recommends approval (4 in Favor/0 Against/1 Abstain)

Summary: *This article funds the ongoing comprehensive planning.*

Article 11: Shall the Town vote to appropriate the sum of **\$17,370** from the **Unassigned Fund Balance** to fund the **Watershed Plan Update Capital Improvement Project**? *[Note: If this article is defeated, the appropriation for funding the Watershed Plan Update Capital Improvement Project Account will default to \$0 pursuant to Section 503.5 of the Town Charter.]*

Select Board recommends approval (5 in Favor/ 0 Against)

Budget Review Committee recommends approval (5 in Favor/0 Against)

Summary: *The Watershed Based Plan update is being completed in two parts. The scope for both parts is available on the website. The first part is ongoing and will be completed in December 2023. This request is to fund the second and final part of the Watershed Based Plan, which will become the basis for the future DEP phased grants referred to as "319 Grants". The TAG (Technical Advisory Group) will be holding its public forum in the fall of 2023. This is to complete the work discussed by Luke Frankle at the Select Board meeting in July.*

Article 12: Shall the Town vote to appropriate the sum of **\$20,000** from the **Unassigned Fund Balance** to establish and fund the **Grants Reserve Account**? *[Note: If this article is defeated, the appropriation for establishing and funding the Grants Reserve Account will default to \$0 pursuant to Section 503.5 of the Town Charter.]*

Select Board recommends approval (5 in Favor/0 Against)

Budget Review Committee recommends approval (5 in Favor/0 Against)

Summary: *The request is to establish a Grants Reserve and fund it with \$20,000 which is enough to fund the Coastal Community Grant for Nature Based Solutions to the Main Beach Parking Lot erosion and leave enough funds for future grant applications throughout the current fiscal year. The Town has been increasing its application for and use of grants but often the requests for applications are announced outside of a budget cycle, making it difficult to plan and prepare for cash-match requirements. Having this Grant Reserve will allow the Select Board to approve grant applications knowing any required match can be funded, ensuring the Town does not miss opportunities for grants. The Coastal Community Grant, which the Town has been approved for, has a match of about \$10,000. Coastal Community Grant Info: Southern Maine Planning and Development Commission (SMPDC) and the Town of Ogunquit will hire an engineering consultant that specializes in nature-based solutions (NBS) to complete a site assessment of the Main Beach parking lot area and surrounding beach and marsh, identify suitable NBS to address stormwater erosion, complete a feasibility assessment to help identify a priority NBS strategy, create a conceptual design of the selected NBS strategy, and develop an implementation plan.*

Article 13: Shall the Town vote to appropriate the sum of **\$5,000** from the **Unassigned Fund Balance** to establish and fund the **Contingency Reserve Account**? *[Note: If this article is defeated, the appropriation for funding the Contingency Account will default to \$0 pursuant to Section 503.5 of the Town Charter.]*

Select Board recommends approval (5 in Favor/0 Against)

Budget Review Committee recommends approval (4 in Favor/1 Against)

Summary: *This is a request to create a Contingency Reserve for issues or citizen concerns that arise outside of a budget cycle. The proposal is to initially fund the Reserve with \$5,000 and annually fund it with the operating budget line item from General Government if that line item is unspent during the year.*

CAPITAL IMPROVEMENT ARTICLES – OTHER FUNDING SOURCE
--

Article 14: Shall the Town (1) vote to approve the project **Public Works Department – Mack Plow Truck with Plow and Body Gear** (the "Purchase"); (2) appropriate a sum not to exceed **\$185,000** to provide for the costs of the Purchase; and (3) fund said appropriation, authorize the Treasurer and Chairman of the Select Board to issue general obligation securities of the Town of Ogunquit, Maine (including temporary notes in anticipation of the sale thereof) in an aggregate principal amount not to exceed **\$185,000** and (4) delegate to the Treasurer and the Chairman of the Select Board the

authority to fix the date(s), maturity(ies), interest rate(s), call(s) for redemption, refunding of said securities, place(s) of payment, form, and other details of said securities, including execution and delivery of said securities on behalf of the Town of Ogunquit, and to provide for the sale thereof?

FINANCIAL STATEMENT

1. **Total Indebtedness as of 06/30/2023**

a.	Bonds outstanding and unpaid:	<u>\$ 7,331,104.00</u>
b.	Bonds authorized and unissued:	<u>\$13,547,844.00</u>
c.	Bonds to be issued if this Article is approved	\$185,000.00

2. **Costs**

a.	At an estimated interest rate of 3.70% for a <u>thirty</u> (30) year maturity, the estimated costs of this bond issue will be:	
	Principal:	\$ 185,000.00
	Interest	<u>\$ 35,805.83</u>
	Total Debt Service:	\$220,805.83

3. **Validity**

The validity of the bonds and of the voters' ratification of the bonds may not be affected by any errors in the above estimates. If the actual amount of the total debt service for the bond issue varies from the estimate, the ratification by the electors is nevertheless conclusive and the validity of the bond issue is not affected by reason of the variance.

/s/Mandy Cummings
Town Treasurer

Select Board recommends approval (5 in Favor/0 Against)

Budget Review Committee recommends approval (5 in Favor/0 Against)

Summary:

This is a continuation of Article 7. The State of Maine has requested the Town take over winter maintenance of a section of Route One. In return, they will provide us with about \$47,000 in Revenue annually (negotiations still ongoing). DPW has requested to purchase a new plow truck to handle the additional road. The truck will be bonded for up to \$175k for 10 years with the difference of \$92,000 coming from the reserve to ensure the debt service is more than covered by the State Revenue.

Article 15: Shall the Town vote to repurpose the **Main Beach Trolley Stop Capital Improvement Project** and allow the funds to be expended for the **FEMA Main Beach Project**? [Note: Total balance to transfer is \$66,855.60, if this article fails the Main Beach Trolley Stop Capital Improvement Project account will remain open.]

Select Board recommends approval (5 in Favor/0 Against)

Budget Review Committee recommends approval (3 in Favor/2 Against)

Summary:

This article proposes to use the funds appropriated in 2014 and 2015 (to repave the Main Beach Trolley Stop, a project which has sat uncompleted since that time) to be used for the 2018 FEMA Main Beach Project, rather than appropriating new Town funds.

**SPECIAL TOWN MEETING, NOVEMBER 7, 2023
SECRET BALLOT VOTING WORKSHEET**

ARTICLE 2: Budget Review Committee Member (Elect 1) Unexpired term Vote for One

Ferraro, Barbara A. ☐ _____
Nobile, Christopher P. ☐ _____
Write-in ☐ _____

Article 3:	Amend Chapter 174 – Solid Waste and Appendix I Ordinance	<input type="checkbox"/>	Yes
		<input type="checkbox"/>	No
Article 4:	Amend Chapter 225 – Zoning Ordinance – §2.2 Definitions	<input type="checkbox"/>	Yes
		<input type="checkbox"/>	No
Article 5:	\$80,000 Fire Truck/Equipment Reserve Account	<input type="checkbox"/>	Yes
	Select Board recommends approval (5 in Favor/0 Against) Budget Review Committee recommends approval (4 in Favor/1 Against)	<input type="checkbox"/>	No
Article 6:	\$23,630 Harbor Reserve Account	<input type="checkbox"/>	Yes
	Select Board recommends approval (5 in Favor/0 Against) Budget Review Committee recommends approval (5 in Favor/0 Against)	<input type="checkbox"/>	No
Article 7:	\$225,000 Public Works Equipment Reserve Account	<input type="checkbox"/>	Yes
	Select Board recommends approval (5 in Favor/0 Against) Budget Review Committee recommends approval (5 in Favor/0 Against)	<input type="checkbox"/>	No
Article 8:	\$50,000 Police Equipment Reserve Account	<input type="checkbox"/>	Yes
	Select Board recommends approval (5 in Favor/0 Against) Budget Review Committee recommends approval (4 in Favor/1 Against)	<input type="checkbox"/>	No
Article 9:	\$25,000 Natural Disaster Reserve Account	<input type="checkbox"/>	Yes
	Select Board recommends approval (5 in Favor/0 Against) Budget Review Committee recommends approval (5 in Favor/0 Against)	<input type="checkbox"/>	No
Article 10:	\$10,000 Comprehensive Plan Capital Improvement Project	<input type="checkbox"/>	Yes
	Select Board recommends approval (5 in Favor/0 Against) Budget Review Committee recommends approval (4 in Favor/0 Against/1 Abstain)	<input type="checkbox"/>	No
Article 11:	\$17,370 Watershed Plan Update Capital Improvement Project	<input type="checkbox"/>	Yes
	Select Board recommends approval (5 in Favor/ 0 Against) Budget Review Committee recommends approval (5 in Favor/0 Against)	<input type="checkbox"/>	No
Article 12:	\$20,000 Grants Reserve Account	<input type="checkbox"/>	Yes
	Select Board recommends approval (5 in Favor/0 Against) Budget Review Committee recommends approval (5 in Favor/0 Against)	<input type="checkbox"/>	No
Article 13:	\$5,000 Contingency Reserve Account	<input type="checkbox"/>	Yes
	Select Board recommends approval (5 in Favor/0 Against) Budget Review Committee recommends approval (4 in Favor/1 Against)	<input type="checkbox"/>	No
Article 14:	Capital Improvement Project Public Works Dept Mack Plow Truck w/Plow/Body \$185,000	<input type="checkbox"/>	Yes
	Select Board recommends approval (5 in Favor/0 Against) Budget Review Committee recommends approval (5 in Favor/0 Against)	<input type="checkbox"/>	No
Article 15:	Repurpose the Main Beach Trolley Stop Capital Improvement Project and allow the funds to be expended for the FEMA Main Beach Project?	<input type="checkbox"/>	Yes
	Select Board recommends approval (5 in Favor/0 Against) Budget Review Committee recommends approval (3 in Favor/2 Against)	<input type="checkbox"/>	No

Thank you for Voting!